

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current Dish Network satellite TV subscriber. I am pledging my support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide me numerous benefits. Including the ability to view my local channels through my satellite. Also, the merger will provide more choices in channel line-up, programming, broadband and new television technologies.

By merging, I feel the combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable television. By being able to offer more programming choices and, most importantly, all local TV channels in our market and every US market. By providing local TV channels throughout the US, this merger will make satellite television a strong alternative to cable in our community. I would be able to turn on my satellite TV to access my local news, weather and community information.

This merger will also bring the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service by satellite to my community, and all Americans who don't have high-speed Internet access. These tremendous benefits to consumers won't happen without the merger. Satellite-delivered Internet service will bring an affordable and competitive alternative to cable modems and DSL to consumers in big cities, small towns and rural areas alike. This will give me a competitive choice for Internet access and will be especially advantageous to rural communities where cable modems and DSL are not likely to be available anytime in the near future.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

Timothy Fribley
304 Cedar Drive
Pella, IA 50219